

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Nobuharu ISHIKAWA et al.  
Title: DISPLACEMENT SENSOR  
Appl. No.: Unassigned  
Filing Date: 11/30/2001  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into the application:

**In the Claims:**

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.121, please substitute for original claims 14, 16, 18, 29 and 30 the following rewritten versions of the same claims, as amended. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

14. (Amended) A displacement sensor according to claim 1, wherein further comprising an illuminator for illuminating a measurement position on the measurement object and a surrounding region, the controller being adapted to turn on the illuminator under the observation mode.

16. (Amended) A displacement sensor according to claim 1, wherein the image acquiring optical system comprises an oblique image acquiring optical system for capturing an image by viewing the measurement position of the measurement object and a surrounding region from an oblique angle, and a frontal image acquiring optical